



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUDY A. JEFFREY, DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
November 14, 2007

For More Information:
Elaine Watkins-Miller, 515-281-5651
elaine.watkins-miller@iowa.gov

Iowa Department of Education Releases Condition of Education Report

DES MOINES, Iowa – The Iowa Department of Education released *The Annual Condition of Education Report* for 2007 today. The report shows a general increase in student achievement on the state tests, a continued decrease in K-12 enrollment statewide, growth in the number of students taking advanced courses, and much more. The 262-page report serves as a tool for Iowa's citizens by providing a wide range of data about the state of prekindergarten through 12th grade education in Iowa.

"We, at the Iowa Department of Education, want Iowa citizens to be well informed about the status of education in Iowa," said Iowa Department of Education Director Judy Jeffrey. "As a state building on its long history of quality in education, we know that as we celebrate our achievements, we must also continue to address the challenges that face us. I want Iowa's citizens to join the Iowa Department of Education in using the information in the *Condition of Education* to plan and implement a world-class education for Iowa's students."

Highlights of the 2007 *Condition of Education*, which reports the most recent state education information up to the 2006-2007 school year, include:

Our Schools

- **516,862:** The number of students statewide in 2006-2007 being served in Iowa's public and non-public schools. Enrollment has dropped 6% in 10 years.
- **365:** The number of districts statewide in 2006-2007; there were 437 in 1986.
- **13.6%:** The percent of minority enrollment across the state; it was 4.5% in 1986.
- **3.5%:** The percent of English Language Learner in the state; it was .06% in 1986.

Our Teachers

- **34,444:** The number of full-time public school teachers in the state in 2006-2007.
- **73.7%:** The percent of female teachers in Iowa.
- **1.8%:** The percent of minority teachers in Iowa.

Grimes State Office Building - Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146

www.iowa.gov/educate

Helping Communities Meet the Learning Needs of All Their Children and Adults

- **42.1:** The average age of Iowa's teachers.
- **28%:** The percent of public school teachers with an advanced degree.
- **\$44,062:** The average salary of Iowa's teachers in 2006-2007.

Student Learning Opportunities

- **26%:** The percent of students enrolled in higher level math (pre-calculus, calculus, trigonometry, statistics, Advanced Placement mathematics) in 2006-2007, up from 24.6% in 2005-2006.
- **69%:** The percent of students enrolled in chemistry in 2006-2007, up from 66% in 2005-2006.
- **26%:** The percent of students enrolled in physics in 2006-2007, up from 25% in 2005-2006.
- **50.2%:** The percent of students enrolled in foreign language courses (Spanish most popular) in 2006-2007, slightly up from 49.5 in 2005-2006.
- **7,127:** The number of test-takers that took 10,776 Advanced Placement exams in 2007, which is an increase of 9.6% and 9.5%, respectively from 2006.
- **3.3:** The number of pupils per computer statewide.
- **97.8%:** The percent of public school districts offering all-day, every day kindergarten programs in 2006-2007.

Student Progress

- **90.8%:** The Iowa public school graduation rate for 2006, which is a slight increase from 90.7 percent in 2005. During the 2005-2006 school year, graduation rates improved for Hispanic students, increasing from 74.1 in 2005 to 75.4 in 2006, and for African-American students, increasing slightly from 76.5 in 2005 to 76.6 in 2006.
- **84.2%:** The percent of high school graduates/seniors who reported in 2007 that they intend to pursue postsecondary education or training. This is an increase from 72.5 in 1997.
- **22.3:** Iowa's average ACT composite score in 2007, which is higher than the national average composite score of 21.2. Iowa is tied with Wisconsin for the second highest average composite score among states that had more than 50 percent of seniors take the ACT assessment.
- **3.19:** The average Advanced Placement exam score in Iowa. The average national score was 2.89 out of a possible 5.

Finance

- **\$5.8 billion:** Total initial state general fund appropriations (FY 2008).
- **41.3%:** The percent of initial state general fund appropriations to PK-12 education (FY 2008).
- **\$7,087:** The state average expenditure per pupil, which places Iowa nearly last among Midwest states in the amount Iowa spends per pupil.

- **72.3%:** The percent of total general fund expenditures in Iowa public school dedicated to student learning in the classroom in 2005-2006.

The *Annual Condition of Education Report* for 2007 will be available on the Iowa Department of Education (DE) website at <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/346/299/>. In addition, a podcast featuring highlights of the report will be posted on the DE website on December 6th at <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/category/27/639/1157/>.

###

The Iowa Department of Education works with the State of Iowa Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.